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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/577,535	04/27/2006	Bing Zhu	20807-002US1 FPCH06160002	9801
26161	7590	12/08/2008	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			YU, MISOOK	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1642	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/08/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/577,535	Applicant(s) ZHU, BING	
	Examiner MISOOK YU	Art Unit 1642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 November 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3,4 and 7-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/25/07,06/26/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 3, 4, and 7-16 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 11/20/2008. Claims 1-16 are pending and claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 are examined on merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the same activity" in 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

For the purpose of this Office action, the phrase is broadly interpreted as any activity of SEQ ID NO: 2 disclosed in the specification.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter

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which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. This written description rejection is based on the revised Written Description Guidelines available at the uspto web site (uspto.gov/web/menu/written.pdf).

Claim 1 and 5 are drawn to genus of proteins different from SEQ ID NO: 2 with 90% sequence homology or deletion, addition or substitution of SEQ ID NO: 2 and the genus having the same activity as that of SEQ ID NO: 2.

The specification, especially Table 1-5 discloses SEQ ID NO: 2 has apoptosis activity, and cancer cell inhibitory activity. However, the specification does not teach which residue(s) or domain(s) is required for the activity. Note the revised Written Description Guidelines on pages 38 and 39.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 5 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pitti et al, Journal of Biological Chemistry, Volume 271, Number 22, Issue of May 31, 1996 pp. 12687-12690.

Claim 1, part 3) is drawn to a protein different from SEQ ID NO: 2 by deletion of unspecified number of amino acid residues and having a same activity as that of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Pitti et al., discloses 281 amino acids protein named Apo-2 ligand. The structural difference between the instantly claimed protein comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 and Apo-2 ligand is that C-terminal 19 amino acids are deleted. Note sequence alignment below. Since the instant specification discloses that the instant SEQ ID NO: 2 has apoptosis activity, it is concluded that the apoptosis activity of Apo-2 ligand is same as the instantly claimed activity.

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Qy          1 TLSSPNSKNEKALGRKINSWESSRSGHSFLSNLHLRNGELVIHEKGFYYIYSQTYFRFQE 60
              |||
Db          135 TLSSPNSKNEKALGRKINSWESSRSGHSFLSNLHLRNGELVIHEKGFYYIYSQTYFRFQE
194

Qy          61 EIKENTKNDKQMVQYIYKYTSYPDPILLMKSARNSCWSKDAEYGLYSIYQGGIFELKEND
120
              |||
Db          195 EIKENTKNDKQMVQYIYKYTSYPDPILLMKSARNSCWSKDAEYGLYSIYQGGIFELKEND
254

Qy          121 RIFVSVTNEHLIDMDHEASFFGAFLVG 147
              |||
Db          255 RIFVSVTNEHLIDMDHEASFFGAFLVG 281
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Conclusion

Claims 2 and 6 are objected because they depend on the rejected base claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MISOOK YU whose telephone number is 571-272-0839. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., every other Friday off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Helms can be reached on 571-272-0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MISOOK YU
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1642

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